

steamer lanes between the 30th and 45th meridians, with hail and snow in the western section. This low moved slowly eastward, and on the 30th (see Chart XIV) the center was somewhere near latitude 56°, longitude 20°, although it was impossible to locate its position accurately on account of lack of observations. On this last day of the month winds of gale force prevailed over the greater

part of the ocean east of the 40th meridian, north of the 45th parallel.

Fog was reported on five days from the Banks of Newfoundland, which is slightly below the normal for that region; it was reported on three days off the east coast of England, being comparatively rare over the other sections of the ocean.

NOTES ON WEATHER IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

British Isles.—Nearly a dozen lives were lost in a severe hurricane which swept the waters around Goodwin Sands in the northern part of the Dover Straits. All attempts to reach stricken vessels were in vain, and several crews are believed to have perished.—*Washington Herald*, Nov. 3, 1919.

In and around the second week, * * * north Britain recorded [lowest November] temperatures * * * in at least half a century. * * * The bitter wintry weather was due largely, if not primarily, to the presence of an area of high barometric pressure over the Icelandic region. After the middle of the month, when depressions began to appear in the far north, the conditions resumed a more normal character, and, with a shift of wind to the west, temperature rose gradually, but very decidedly. * * * The general rainfall, expressed as a percentage of the average, was as follows: England and Wales, 82; Scotland, 110; Ireland, 79. Taken together October and November [in London (Camden Square)] had a mean temperature of 42.3°, the lowest in 62 years' record.—*Symons's Meteorological Mag., London, Dec., 1919, p. 137.* (Cf. *Nature, London, Dec. 25, 1919, pp. 417-418.*)

Belgium.—Heavy floods, and continued rain, were reported from all parts of Belgium. The Scheldt river rose over 6 feet, and the Sambre more than 7; the lower parts of Charleroi and of Mons were inundated.—*Washington Evening Star, Dec. 28, 1919.*

France.—Following closely upon the snowstorm of late October, snow again fell in various parts of France early in November. The fall in Paris was especially heavy, and was accompanied by intense cold. The Ardennes and Pyrenees are covered, the snow at one place reaching a depth of 3 feet. Marseilles is also suffering under the severe cold wave.—*New York Evening Post, Nov. 3, 1919.*

A blizzard struck Paris November 14, with 6 to 10 inches of snow the first night. Train and telegraph services were seriously interfered with, surface tramway cars tied up, and much suffering caused by the lack of coal.—*New York Evening Post, Nov. 15, 1919.*

Voters of Paris and all northern France trudged through 8 inches of snow to reach the polls, and in the south there had been storms and heavy rains. Paris had the heaviest snowfall in 75 years.—*New York Tribune, Nov. 17, 1919.*

Germany.—Urgent calls for brooms, shovels, wheelbarrows, and drays were made by the mayor of Berlin in the battle on steadily mounting snowdrifts. Streets are flanked with 4-foot snowbanks, and conditions in outlying residential sections are worse.—*New York Globe, Nov. 20, 1919.*

Berlin.—The weather in Berlin and throughout Germany, which had been very severe for the past week,

has suddenly changed and today was almost warm. Rain made the thoroughfares almost impassable, the slush being many inches deep. Sewers are choked.—*By the Associated Press, Nov. 20, 1919.*

Spain.—A gale blew throughout Spain November 7. Three ships were driven ashore at Cadiz, while Malaga was partly inundated. Great damage was caused at Cordova, and there was a flood at Algeciras.—*New York Evening Post, Nov. 8, 1919.*

A heavy fall of snow and rain caused floods in many parts of Spain. No serious damage has as yet been reported, but Seville, Cadiz, and Huelva are threatened. The floods inundated the town of Alcala de Henares, 17 miles east northeast of Madrid, but without loss of life.—*New York Sun, Nov. 17, 1919.*

South Africa.—There is now not the slightest doubt that this is the severest drought that South Africa has ever experienced. This is the opinion of Mr. Cronwright, the principal sheep inspector, and I have to-day had the statistics of the meteorological stations of the border and midland districts placed before me dating from 1872.

These show that the severest season was in 1883, when only 12.65 inches of rain fell. The rainfall in 1884 was 12.70, and in 1885, 14.73—three terrible years. In 1903, which was a bad year, there were 15.78 inches, while in 1904 only 15.05. In 1908 only 13.69 inches of rain were recorded. All the foregoing were considered to be years of exceptional drought. Up to the present, and there are only six weeks to go, the year 1919 is far and away the lowest on record, as only 8.03 inches of rain have fallen.

A continuous heavy rain may alter this average, but the fact remains that since April no appreciable rain has fallen in these areas of the Union, where the crop and the stock prospects depend entirely upon the rain. * * *

In his opinion, the areas which had felt its effects worse were the midlands and the northwestern districts of the Cape, but the Free State was very badly affected. * * *

Taking the general average, the stock losses are not less than 35 per cent, while the crops are a total failure.—*Cape Times, Nov. 6, 1919.*

Australia.—Australia, especially New South Wales, during the month suffered the most devastating drought since white men have resided in the country. Stock and crops have been destroyed, and it is doubtful whether there will be enough seed wheat for next season's sowing. Hundreds and perhaps thousands of settlers have been ruined. Paddocks are littered with the skeletons of cattle; even rabbits are dying in vast numbers.—*Chicago Evening Post, Nov. 19, 1919.*